IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

Not yet known

Applicant

FAUCONNIER Denis et al.

PCT filing No

PCT/FR03/00008

PCT filing date

January 3, 2003.

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir: Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.